GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1849
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
DEBARMENT OF EUROPEAN CHEMICAL FIRMS
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several major European chemical firms face possible debarment by the World Bank following allegations that they colluded to overcharge a bank funding anti malaria programme in India as published in the Mint dated January 23, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is not aware of any such steps contemplated by the World Bank. The World Bank has carried out a detailed implementation review (DIR) of the World Bank supported Enhanced Malaria Control Project (EMCP 1997-2005). DIR Report received in January, 2007, alludes to possible cartelization by four multinational firms for supply of insecticide (Synthetic Pyrethroids) to the EMCP. Possible cartelization had been identified early in the implementation of EMCP. Effective steps taken by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, led to disappearance of possible collusion, increase in competition and fall in prices of Synthetic Pyrethroids.